

Message Text

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SUBJECT:SECRETARY'S REMARKS ON KOREA IN CBS INTERVIEW

1. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM JUNE 19 CBS CRONKITE
INTERVIEW OF THE SECRETARY. QUOTE.

2. MR. CRONKITE: THE SECRETARY OF STATE, IN ADDRESSING
THE JAPAN SOCIETY IN NEW YORK LAST NIGHT, SEEMED TO
FURTHER DEFINE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, PARTICULARLY IN THE
STICKY AREA OF MILITARY SUPPORT FOR NON-DEMOCRATIC REGIMES.
HE SAID THE LESSON OF VIET-NAM WAS THAT OUTSIDE MILITARY
SUPPORT WAS NOT ENOUGH--THAT THERE WAS NOT A POPULAR WILL
TO RESIST. NONETHELESS, HE ADDED, THE UNITED STATES, IN
THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND SECURITY, WILL MEET TREATY
OBLIGATIONS TO SUPPORT GOVERNMENTS THAT DO NOT REFLECT
THE "POPULAR WILL" AND SOCIAL JUSTICE. I ASKED HIM IF
THAT MEANT THAT AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY PUT EXPEDIENCY
ABOVE PRINCIPLE.

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3. SECRETARY KISSINGER: THAT IS A VERY EXTREME STATEMENT. THERE ARE SITUATIONS IN WHICH THE COLLAPSE OF A COUNTRY COULD HAVE DRASTIC CONSEQUENCES FOR WORLD PEACE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN WORLD WAR II, THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN SUPPORTED THE SOVIET UNION EVEN THOUGH WE HAD

FUNDAMENTAL DISAGREEMENTS WITH THEIR INTERNAL SYSTEM. ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEREVER THE UNITED STATES CAN DO SO, AND TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE, WE MUST SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, HUMANE GOVERNMENTS, AND BEFORE THERE ARE PRESSURES WE SHOULD USE AND INTEND TO USE OUR INFLUENCE IN THAT DIRECTION.

4. MR. CRONKITE: YOU MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY KOREA LAST NIGHT, AND OBVIOUSLY THIS IS WHAT YOU HAD IN MIND IN MUCH OF THIS DISCUSSION. ARE YOU SAYING THAT WE WILL KEEP OUR TREATY COMMITMENT EVEN IF WE KNOW FROM THE VIETNAMESE EXPERIENCE THAT POPULAR WILL IS LACKING, AND WE THEREFORE ARE LIKELY TO LOSE THE BALL GAME IN THE END ANYWAY?

5. SECRETARY KISSINGER: I DON'T THINK THAT THE JUDGMENT IS CORRECT THAT WE WILL LOSE THE BALL GAME IN THE END IN KOREA, OR THAT A WILLINGNESS TO DEFEND AGAINST ATTACK FROM NORTH KOREA IS LACKING. THERE ARE SOME DISPUTES REGARDING THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN SOUTH KOREA, AND THE UNITED STATES BASICALLY SUPPORTS A LIBERAL EVOLUTION TOWARDS DEMOCRATIC FORMS. BUT THE WILL TO RESIST CERTAINLY EXISTS IN KOREA, AND IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE CREATED, AS WAS THE CASE IN VIET-NAM. UMQUOTE. KISSINGER

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